



Riverside Neighborhood Partnership

Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

City Hall – Mayor's Ceremonial Room

Members Present: Christina Duran, Marisol Ruiz, David McNiel, Brian Percy, Randy Akes, Jr., Pat Watson, Wivory Brandle, Erin House, Laura Powers, Jacob Hernandez, Nancy Hart, Dana Kruckenberg, Jay Dyer

Members Excused: Carolyn Hart, Steve Stearns, Annette Martinez Lievanos, Heather Troxel, Cynthia Woods, Barbara Brown

Members Unexcused: Manuel Carrasco, Rita Nieto, John Arroyos, Susie Q. Parker

Guests: George Flower, Jenice Haskins, Lindsay Abercrombie, Lynda Thompson, Ron Richmond, Marie Leggette, Natalie Thropay

Staff: Eva Yakutis-McNiel, Director, Office of Neighborhoods; Martha Matus, Community Relations Assistant

1. Welcome and Self-Introductions

Meeting was called to order by Randy Akes, Jr., at 6:35 p.m. Self-introduction of members and guests followed.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of December 1, 2003.
(McNiel/Duran/carried)

3. Regreen Evergreen Presentation – George Flower and Ron Richmond

Mr. Flower and Mr. Richmond gave a Power Point presentation about the Regreen Evergreen initiative and took questions and answers.

4. Blueprint for Volunteer Diversity – Jenice Haskins

Ms. Haskins gave an overview of Blueprint for Volunteer Diversity leadership training opportunities and invited all RNP members to apply for this year's training class. Blueprint's mission is to identify, recruit, and train the underrepresented populations (ethnic, age, gender, etc.) for boards and commissions.

Question and answer followed the presentation, and many members were interested in applying. Applications were distributed.

5. CDBG Project Review List

Eva Yakutis-McNiel presented a partial list of current CDBG projects as provided by the Housing and Community Development Division. Discussion followed as to the RNP's involvement in the process and how the City's Capital Improvement List is developed for use in this process. All members were encouraged to get involved in the process, attend the focus area meetings, and be a leader at these meetings by assisting other residents and making the neighborhood's voice be heard.

6. Hazardous Waste

No report.

7. Subcommittee Assignments: The following RNP subcommittees were formed.

- a. **Neighborhood Pride 2004** – McNiel, Dyer, Brandle, Powers (if needed)
- b. **Neighborhood Conference 2004** – Ruiz, Duran, McNiel, Brandle, Akes

8. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Mayor's Challenge Committee – The group met at 5:30 pm this date and discussed how to proceed. Each member will review the list presented by the Mayor and select an area of interest. Next meeting: January 19, 2004, 6:30, Kountry Folks Restaurant.
- b. Traffic Committee - Eva and David McNiel will be presenting to the PTS Committee on Feb. 4 an overview of the Office of Neighborhoods and RNP as well as suggested changes to the requirements for speed humps as recommended by the Traffic Committee

9. Office of Neighborhood Report

- a. Family Financial Asset Building program - Ms. Yakutis-McNiel reported on the Office of Neighborhoods facilitation of a wide collaborative that will provide free tax preparation and financial literacy training to low income families. The intent is to put more money into the pockets of Riverside's neediest working families through Earned Income Tax Credits. Discussion followed.
- b. Southern California Neighborhood Partners – Next quarterly meeting is in Pasadena on February 10. Members and neighborhood leaders are invited to attend with Office of Neighborhoods staff and other city staff.

10. Future Agenda Items: LEAP program presentation for February, Family Financial Asset Building program, City Clerk re: Board and Commission meeting times.

11. Other Business:

- Linda Thompson reported on the March 20, 2004, Ismael Villegas recognition event at the Veterans' Mall from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Community is invited to come and commemorate our hometown hero and enjoy food and music.
- Erin House reported on status of his Area 5 Business Neighborhood Watch group.

12. Next Meeting: February 2, 2004, 6:30pm – 5th floor large conference room

13. Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared by Office of Neighborhoods